

ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS (LONDON)

PUBLIC EXAMINATION in CARNATIC MUSIC

Vocal & Instrumental Examinations

Grades 1 to 9 Syllabus

Effective from April 2021 Exams

*The Academy's Music Teacher's Diploma is recognised by The University of Madras
for further studies*



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This syllabus supersedes all previous versions

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ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS (LONDON)
PUBLIC EXAMINATION
in
CARNATIC MUSIC

NOTES FOR EXAM APPLICATIONS

New Syllabus:

The attached revised syllabus should be used for examinations to be held in and after April 2018 examinations, until further revisions.

Theory Exams:

There will be written theory examinations from Grades 2 to Music Teacher's Diploma. Students who have already sat for either Vocal or Instrumental examinations will have to re-sit the Theory exams after **24 calendar months** have elapsed - when they sit for another subject. This is applicable to all grades from grades 2 to Diploma (New Grade 8 - Former Grade 6).

Theory Question Papers will be set as follows:

Grades 2 (1 hour paper)

Part 1: Multiple Choice Questions 80%

Part 2: Detailed Essay type Questions 20%

Grades 3 (1.5 hours paper) Grades 4 & 5 (2 hours paper) and Grades 6 (2.5 hours paper)

Part 1: Multiple Choice Questions 60%

Part 2: Detailed Essay type Questions 40%

Grade 7 (2.5 hours paper) and Diploma Grade 8 (3 hours paper)

Part 1: Multiple Choice Questions 50%

Part 2: Detailed Essay type Questions 50%

Audio- Visual Examination for Diploma Year 4 (Grade 7) and Diploma (Grade 8):

There will be a half an hour Audio-Visual examination, to be held after the Theory exam. Students who have already sat for either Vocal or Instrumental examinations at Diploma Year 2 and Diploma will have to re-sit the Audio-Visual exams after **24 calendar months** have lapsed - when they sit for another subject. Audio-Visual marks will be awarded as a bonus to candidates Theory exam.

Rules for Exemptions:

- A. A student appearing for the Academy's examinations for the first time or without previous qualifications from other examination boards can be considered for exemptions from the first three grades, ie Beginners, One & Two only (and if they are more than 10 years old by July in the year of examination the student proposes to sit).
- B. A student of other examination boards can be exempted from any grades of the Academy of Fine Arts (London) examinations provided they have passed the corresponding grades of the other examination boards and have covered the Academy syllabus.

Continued on next page

ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS (LONDON)

PUBLIC EXAMINATION in CARNATIC MUSIC

Notes for Exam Applications (contd.)

NB:

The “corresponding grades” are not necessarily the same number grades. The Academy’s grades correspond with higher grades of some examination boards, but with lower grades of North Ceylon Oriental Music Society (NCOMS). Students who possess qualified certificates for Grades 1 to 5 from NCOMS will be allowed to take the Academy’s next appropriate Grade Exam.

September / October Exams

To help referred students to pass theory exams there will be Theory and Practical exams held in September / October of each year for Grades 2 to 8.

This exam is now being reviewed whether to take place due to the number of students sitting for the exam.

Diploma (New Grade 8 - Former Grade 6)

Effective from 2010 April/May exams students who pass New Grade 8 – Former Grade 6 will be issued a Diploma Certificate. This certificate will neither qualify in any way as Academy’s Music Teacher’s Diploma (New Grade 9 - Former Grade 7) Diploma nor will it be recognised as a Diploma by University of Madras for further studies.

In order to qualify as Diploma holder for further studies in University of Madras, students should pass the Academy’s Music Teacher’s Diploma (New Grade 9 - Former Grade 7) examinations.

*Any Queries and Questions on this Examination Notes should be discussed with
Academy’s Board Chairman Dr Ratnam Niththyananthan Tel: +44-208-904 3937
or Academy’s Administrator Jana Ratnasabapathy Tel: +44-208 886 8320*

ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS (LONDON)
PUBLIC EXAMINATION
in
CARNATIC MUSIC
Syllabus for Vocal & Instrumental
Grade Beginners
(Recommended age to sit for exam - 7 years)
Practical examination only

All lessons to be practised in Mayamalavagowla ragam.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----|
| 1. Swara Varisai | 12 |
| 2. Jantai Varisai | 4 |
| 3. Upper Hechchu Stayi Varisai | 2 |

1-3 to be practised in 2 Kalams i.e. in first 2 degrees of speed

Oral Theory: *Theory knowledge of this Grade syllabus set out as below will be orally examined by one of the examiners.*

1. Names of the seven swaras (saptha swaras).
2. Definitions of Musical terms - Arohanam, Avarohanam, Sruthi, Swaram, Stayi, Jantai Varisai.

NOTE: At the practical exam students should submit a list of musical pieces learnt or covered for the grade.

ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS (LONDON)
PUBLIC EXAMINATION
in
CARNATIC MUSIC
Syllabus for Vocal & Instrumental

Grade One
(Recommended age to sit for exam - 7 years)
Practical examination only

All lessons to be practised in Mayamalavagaula ragam.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|----|--------------------------|
| 1. Swara Varisai | 16 | (including Mathya stayi) |
| 2. Jantai Varisai | 6 | |
| 3. Thakku Stayi Varisai | 4 | |
| 4. Thaaddu Varisai | 2 | |
| 5. Upper Hechchu Stayi Varisai | 4 | |

1-5 to be practised in 3 Kalams i.e. in first 3 degrees of speed

- | | | |
|---------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 6. Alankarams | 3 | (eka, rupaka and tripata talas only) |
|---------------|---|--------------------------------------|

Item 6 to be practised in 2 Kalams i.e. in first 2 degrees of speed

- | | | |
|-------------|---|--|
| 7. Thevaram | 1 | |
|-------------|---|--|

Oral Theory: Theory knowledge of Grade 1 syllabus will be orally examined by one of the examiners

- Names of the twelve swara-stanams.
- Definitions of Musical terms - Swaravali, Akshara-kalams, Alankaram.
- Definitions of Talam, Tala-Angams, Lagu, Drutham, Anudrutham.
- Names of the Sapta-Talams with their respective Angams and Symbols.

NOTE: At the practical exam students should submit a list of musical pieces learnt or covered for the grade.

NOTES FOR INSTRUMENTS

- Sahitya meeddu (Veena) or Sahitya bowing (Violin) or Sahitya blowing and fingering (Flute) should be taught for basic Geetams. It is advisable that the Sahityam of Geetam, Divya-nama Keerthana and Thevarams are also taught to the students and (if possible) students should be able to sing the sahityam while playing the instrument or otherwise.
- Playing in sahithyam
Violin – two swarams to one bow and 4 swarams to one bow
Veena – two swarams to one meeddu and 4 swarams to one meeddu
Flute – two swarams to one blow and 4 swarams to one blow

ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS (LONDON)
PUBLIC EXAMINATION
in
CARNATIC MUSIC
Syllabus for Vocal & Instrumental

Second Grade
(Recommended age to sit for exam - 8 years)

Note: Definitions of terms like Varja, Sampurnam, Vakra and other names like Janaka, Janya should be explained while teaching. Only simple explanation is required.

Practical:

1. Saptha Tala Alankarams 7
to be practised in three Kalams i.e. in first, second and third degree of speed.
2. Geetam - in two kalams 4 *(in Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Sanskrit)*
To be practised in the following Ragams:
Malahari, Mohanam, Suddha-saveri, Kalyani, Ananda-bhairavi, Kambhoji, Mayamalavagaula,
Madhyamavati, Bowli, Harikambhoji.
3. Lakshana Geetham or Suladi 1
4. Jathiswaram 1

To be practised in the following Ragams:
Bilahari, Kalyani, Shankarabharanam, Saveri, Vasantha, Hamsadhwani, Abohi, Khamas.
Jathiswaram: New pieces should be taught chosen from wider range available
5. Divya-nama Kirtanas 2 *(Sri Thiagaraja)*
6. Sankeertana *(Sri Annamachari)*
or Devar Nama *(Sri Purandaradasar)*
or Thiru Anga malai 1 *(Thirunavukkarasar) - Vocal only*
7. Thevaram 2 *(1 new and 1 previous grade)*

Theory:

1. Definition of signs and symbols used in notation - namely, Akshara-kala signs (comma, semi-colon), Stayi symbols (only 3 stayi ie Mandra, Matya, Tara), Kalam (only 3 kala speed) or degree of speed signs, Tala anga divisions, Avartam endings.
Numerical signs in (jaati), tala angam (lagu symbols) and symbols used for gamakams.
2. Swarastanas taken by ragams handled in the practical lessons and their Arohanam, Avarohanam.
3. Lakshanam of Geetam with the names of composers.
4. Triangam - Lagu, Drutam, Anudrutam - signs and definitions.
5. Sapta talams and the scheme of 35 talams using 5 jaatis in Lagu.
6. Oral Theory of previous two grades will be examined in this grade.
7. Practising to write Geetham with notations (swara and sahitya), Sapta tala Alankarams.

NOTES:

1. All students sitting for the practical exams should submit a list of all musical pieces learnt / covered for the grade and for the previous grade.
2. Previous Grade's syllabus should be covered when sitting for this grade.

ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS (LONDON)
PUBLIC EXAMINATION
in
CARNATIC MUSIC
Syllabus for Vocal & Instrumental

Third Grade
(Recommended age to sit for exam - 10 years)

Practical:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1. Swarajati | 1 | |
| 2. Tana Varnam in Adi Talam | 1 | (in two speeds) |
| 3. Kriti or Kirtana | 2 | |

Kritis and Kirtanas: To be taught in Adi and Rupaka Talams. Music pieces should be in Tamil, Telugu and Sanskrit languages. Kritis and Kirtanas could be taught in Ragas chosen from the Grade's Raga Lakshana list and also in any other Ragas.

- | | | |
|----------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 4. Thevarams | 3 | (1 new and 2 previous grades) |
| 5. Puranam | 1 | Vocal only |
| 6. Thirupugazh | 2 | |
7. Candidates should be able to sing the Arohanam-Avarohanam of the following Ragams: Mayamalavagaula, Mohanam, Sankarabharanam, Kalyani and Hamsadhwani.

Theory:

1. Definitions of Musical terms: Graham or Eduppu: Samam - Anakatam - Atheetham.
2. Descriptions (Lakshanam) of Swarajati, Jathiswaram and Varnam.
3. Sapta Talams and the scheme of 35 Talams using 5 jaatis in Lagu.
4. Raga Lakshanam for the following Ragas: Mohanam, Hamsadhwani, Kalyani, Mayamalavagaula, Shankarabharanam, Madhyamavati.
5. Musical Instruments: Thambura & Kanjira - Structure and the art of handling of these Vadyams (Instruments). Know names of past & present Vidwans for Kanjira.
6. Vageyakaras or Composers: Purandara Dasar & Muthu Thandavar – their life-history and their contributions to Carnatic music.
7. Practising to write Swarajati with notations (swara and sahitya).

NOTES:

1. All students sitting for the practical exams should submit a list of all musical pieces learnt or covered for the grade and for the previous grades.
2. Previous Grades' syllabuses should be covered when sitting for this grade.
3. Sight singing should be done in vocal (for instrumental candidates as well).

ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS (LONDON)
PUBLIC EXAMINATION
in
CARNATIC MUSIC
Syllabus for Vocal & Instrumental

Diploma – Year 1 (Grade 4)
(Recommended age to sit for exam 11 years)

Practical:

1. Varnam in Adi Talam 2 (in two speeds) (1 new and 1 previous)

2. Kriti or Kirtana 4 (2 new and 2 previous)

Kritis and Kirtanas: Compositions of Muthu Thandavar, Papanasam Sivan, Gopalakrishna Bharati, Mysore Vasudevachariar, Koteeswara Aiyer and Sri Thiagaraja

3. Thevarams 4 (1 new and 3 previous grades)

4. Thirupugazh 3 (1 new and 2 previous grade)

5. Sight singing: Candidates should be able to sing simple sancharams given at the practical exams (set to Adi or Rupaka Talams with two swaras for an aksharam) in the following Ragams:

Mayamalavagaula, Sankarabharanam, Mohanam and Anandabhairavi.

Teachers should make it a practice to teach the student to sing the Arohana-Avarohanam of the ragas given in the sight singing.

Theory:

1. Definition of the following Ragams:

a. Janaka-ragam, Janya-ragam and its varieties (the eight kinds of varja ragams with examples).

b. The three types of Vakra ragams with examples.

2. Janya ragas: Definition of the following janya ragas with suitable examples:

Bhashanga – Upanga - Nishadhandya - Dhaivadhandya - Panchamandhya.

3. Raga Lakshanam for the following Ragas: Harikambhoji, Suddha Saveri, Bilahari, Abohi, Panthuvrali (Kamavardhani) and Sri Ranjani

4. Musical instruments: Mridhangam & Flute - Structure and the art of handling and tuning of these Vadyams (Instruments). Know names of past & present Vidwans.

5. Vageyarakaras or Composers: Gopalakrishna Bharathi & Sri Thiagaraja - their life-history and their contributions to Carnatic music.

6. Practising to write Varnam with notations (swara and sahitya).

NOTES:

1. All students sitting for the practical exams should submit a list of all musical pieces learnt or covered for the grade and for the previous grades.
2. Previous Grades' syllabuses should be covered when sitting for this grade.
3. Sight singing should be done in vocal (for instrumental candidates as well).

ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS (LONDON)
PUBLIC EXAMINATION
in
CARNATIC MUSIC
Syllabus for Vocal & Instrumental

Diploma – Year 2 (Grade 5)
(Recommended age to sit for exam 12 years)

Practical:

1. Varnam in Ata Talam 1 (*in two speeds*)
2. Ragamalika Varnam in Adi Talam 1 (*in two speeds*)
3. Kriti or Kirtana 6 (*2 new and 4 previous grades*)

Kritis and Kirtanas: Compositions of Muthu Thandavar, Papanasam Sivan, Gopalakrishna Bharathi, Mysore Vasudevachariar, Koteeswara Aiyer, Muthuswamy Dikshitar, Shyama Sastri and Sri Thiagaraja

4. Subramaniya Bharathiyar Songs 2
5. Thevarams 5 (*1 new and 4 previous grades*)
6. Thirupugazh 4 (*1 new and 3 previous grade*)
7. Sight singing: Candidates should be able to sing simple sancharams given at the practical exams (set to Adi or Rupaka Talam with two swaras for an aksharam) in the following Ragams: Abohi, Kalyani, Bilahari and Harikambhoji

Teachers should make it a practice to teach the student to sing the Arohana-Avarohanam of the ragas given in the sight singing.

Theory:

1. Definitions of Musical terms: Ragam, Varjam (audava-shadava-sampurna), Upanga-bhashangam, Tristhayi ragam, Ancient ragam, Auspicious ragam, Melakarta ragam.
2. Scheme of 72 Melakartas - Names of chakras, the allocation of the swara mnemonics in the chakras.
3. Raga Lakshanam for the following Ragas: Arabhi, Kambhoji, Anandabhairavi, Simhendramadyamam and Keeravani.
4. Musical instruments: Violin & Morsing - Structure and the art of handling and tuning of these Vadyams (Instruments). Know names of past & present Vidwans.
5. Vageyarakaras or Composers: Muthuswamy Dikshitar & Arunachala Kavirayar – Their life-history and their contributions to Carnatic music.
6. Practising to write Varnams in the syllabus with notations (swara and sahitya).

NOTES:

1. All students sitting for the practical exams should submit a list of all musical pieces learnt or covered for the grade and for the previous grades.
2. Previous Grades' syllabuses should be covered when sitting for this grade.
4. Sight singing should be done in vocal (for instrumental candidates as well).

ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS (LONDON)
PUBLIC EXAMINATION
in
CARNATIC MUSIC
Syllabus for Vocal & Instrumental
Diploma – Year 3 (Grade 6)
(Recommended age to sit for exam 13 years)

Practical:

1. Tana Varnam (Ata Talam) 2 (1 new and 1 previous grades)
2. Tana Varnam (other than Adi or Ata) 1
3. Madyama kala Kriti/Kirtana 8 (2 new and 6 previous grades)

Kritis and Kirtanas: Compositions of Gopalakrishna Bharati, Papanasam Sivan, Koteeswara Aiyer, Sri Thyagaraja, Muthuswamy Dikshitar, Shyama Sastri, Tanjore Quartet & Swati Tirunal.

(Candidates should be able to sing a short raga Alapana and kalpana swarams for a Madhyama kala kriti of the candidate's choice)

5. Navavarnam or Navagraha Kriti 1 (by Muthuswami Dikshitar)
6. Chauka kala Kriti/Kirtana 1
7. Ashtapadhi (by Jayadevar)
or Jawali
or Tarangam 1 (by Narayana Theerthar)
8. Sight singing: Candidates should be able to sing simple sancharams given at the practical exams (set to Adi or Rupaka Talams with 4 swaras for an aksharam) in the following Ragas: Hindolam, Kharaharapriya, Panthumarali and Madhyamavati.

Teachers should make it a practice to teach the student to sing the Arohana-Avarohanam of the ragas given in the sight singing.

9. Examiner's Choice: Examiner will select (i) a Varnam (ii) Navavarnam or Navagraha from the candidate's list and request the candidate to sing or play.

Theory:

1. Definition with examples for Musical Terms:
 - Sarvakalika Ragam
 - Manodharma Sangeetham - Kalpita Sangeetham and Kalpana Sangeetham.
 - Raga-chaya swarams, Amsa swarams, Jeeva swarams, Nyasa swarams, Kampita swarams.

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Diploma Year 3 (Grade 6) - (continued)

2. The scheme of 72 Melakartas. Names of Ragas contained in each chakra. Details of the Ragas, Bhuta-sankhyai, Swara mnemonics and mela mnemonics (Pa, Sri, etc.)
3. Raga Lakshanam for the following Ragas: Hindolam, Kamas, Bhoopalam, Thodi, Kanada and Shanmugapriya.
It's essential for candidates to answer their Raga Lakshana questions with the use of Swarastana-graphs of arohanam and avarohanam for the above ragas.
4. Structure & use of Musical Forms: Kriti, Kirtana, Ashtapathi, Javali, Tharangam
5. Musical instruments: Veena & Ghatam - Structure and the art of handling and tuning of these Vadyams (Instruments). Know names of past & present vidwans.
6. Vageyakaras or Composers: Shyama Sastri & Marimuthapillai - their life-history and their contributions to Carnatic music.
7. Practising to write Varnams and Kritis (learnt in the syllabus) with notations (swara and sahitya).

NOTES: Please also read the Notes on Syllabus at the beginning

1. Student should be able to tune their Sruthi box, Violin, Veena.
2. All students sitting for the practical exams should submit a list of all musical pieces learnt or covered for the grade and for the previous grades.
3. Previous Grades' syllabuses should be covered when sitting for this grade.
4. Sight singing should be done in vocal (for instrumental candidates as well).

ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS (LONDON)
PUBLIC EXAMINATION
in
CARNATIC MUSIC
Syllabus for Vocal & Instrumental

Diploma – Year 4 (Grade 7)
(Recommended age to sit for exam 13 years)

Practical:

1. Tana Varnam (Adi Talam) 3 *(1 new and 2 previous grades)*
Suggested ragas: Saveri, Thodi, Surati, Begada, Sahana, Kedaragaula, Darbar.
2. Tana Varnam (Ata Talam) 3 *(1 new and 2 previous grades)*
3. Swarajati 1 *(by Shyama Sastri)*
4. Panchartna Kriti 1 *(Sri Thiagaraja)*
5. Madyama kala Kriti/Kirtana 9 *(1 new and 8 previous grades)*

Kritis and Kirtanas: Compositions of Gopalakrishna Bharati, Papanasam Sivan, Koteeswara Aiyer, Sri Thyagaraja, Muthuswamy Dikshitar, Shyama Sastri, Tanjore Quartet & Swati Tirunal.

(Candidates should be able to sing a short raga Alapana, Niraval and kalpana swarams for a Madhyama kala kriti of the candidate's choice)

6. Chauka kala Kriti/Kirtana 2 *(1 new and 1 previous grade)*
7. Padham 1
8. Sight singing: Candidates should be able to sing simple sancharams given at the practical exams (set to Adi or Rupaka Talam 4 swaras for an aksharam) in the following Ragas: Vasanta, Hemavathi, Suddha Dhanyasi and Chakkaravaham

Teachers should make it a practice to teach the student to sing the Arohana-Avarohanam of the ragas given in the sight singing.

8. Examiner's Choice: Examiner will select (i) a Varnam (ii) Shyama Sastri's Swarajati from the candidate's list and request the candidate to sing or play.
9. Candidates should prepare and submit a journal (scrapbook) for grade Diploma Year 4. Students should endeavour to write in their own handwriting – wherever possible – their observations, comments on articles, reviews of concerts and pictures.

Examiner will sign and date the journal (scrapbook) at the end – each time it is submitted.

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Theory:

1. Raga Lakshanam for the following Ragas: Bhairavi, Vasantha, Dhanyasi, Surati, Poorvi Kalyani, Charukesi, Vachaspati and Neelambari.

It's essential for candidates to answer their Raga Lakshana questions with the use of Swarastaana-graphs of arohanam and avarohanam for the above ragas.

2. Structure & use of Musical Forms: Ragamalika, Padham, Chauka kala kriti, Thillana
3. Musical instruments: Nagaswaram & Taval, Structure and the art of handling of these Vaadyams. Know names of past & present vidwaans.
4. Vageyarakas or Composers: Short life history of the Naalvar (Thevara and Thiruvasaka composers), Arunagirinathar and Annamachariyar.
5. Practising to write Pancharatna Kriti and Shyama Sastri's Swarajati (learnt in the syllabus) with notations (swara and sahitya).
6. There will be a half an hour Audio-Visual examination, to be held after or before the Theory exam. This exam will test research, listening, visual and reading knowledge on Carnatic Music based on past and present Vidwans, Composers (Vageyarakas) and Instrumentalists. It will also test knowledge of ragas (common ragas and ragas in the grade's syllabus), talas and mudhras on varnams, krithis, kirthanas, Ashtapathis and Javalis. Listening knowledge of musical forms like geetams, Thillanas, Padams, Shyama Sastri's Swarajatis and musical instruments could also be tested. Please contact Administrator should you have any further questions.

NOTES: Please also read the Notes on Syllabus at the beginning

1. Student should be able to tune their Sruthi box, Violin, Veena.
2. All students sitting for the practical exams should submit a list of all musical pieces learnt or covered for the grade and for the previous grades.
3. Previous Grades' syllabuses should be covered when sitting for this grade.
4. Sight singing should be done in vocal (for instrumental candidates as well).

ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS (LONDON)
PUBLIC EXAMINATION
in
CARNATIC MUSIC
Syllabus for Vocal & Instrumental
Diploma (Grade 8)
(Recommended age to sit for exam 14 years)

Practical:

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------------|----|--|
| 1. | Panchartna Kriti | 2 | (Sri Thiagaraja)
(1 new and 1 previous grade) |
| 2. | Madyama kala Kriti/Kirtana | 10 | (1 new and 9 previous grades) |
| 3. | Chauka kala Kriti/Kirtana | 3 | (1 new and 2 previous grade) |

Kritis and Kirtanas: Madyama & Chauka kala Compositions of all the composers mentioned in previous grades, Shyama Sastri, Arunachala Kavirayar, Harikesa Nallur Muthiah Bagavathar, Oothukadu Venkata Subbaiyer and other composers.

(Kritis and Keerthanas should not have less than 4 sangatis each.)

Raga Alapana, (Tanam only for Veena) Niraval and Kalpana swaras for any Chauka kala Kriti / Kirtana. Students should be able to handle these sections on their own.

4. A short Raga Alapana of a Raga (chosen by the candidate from Grades 3 to Diploma syllabus).
5. Ragamalika 1
- Ragamalika: Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Sanskrit compositions (including Ponniah Pillai, Seetaramiah, Bavayami Raguramam by Swathi Thirunal Maharajah, Tanjore Shankara Iyer etc.)*
6. Padha Varnam 1
7. Thillana 1
8. Examiner's Choice: Examiner will select (i) Padha Varnam (ii) Pancharatna kriti from the candidate's list and request the candidate to sing.
9. Candidates should continue preparing the journal (scrapbook) already prepared for Diploma Year 4 (New Grade 7) and submit again with additional notes.

Students should endeavour to write in their own handwriting – wherever possible – their observations, comments on articles, reviews of concerts and pictures.
Examiner will sign and date the journal (scrapbook) at the end – each time it is submitted.

(continued on next page)

Theory:

1. Raga Lakshanam for the following Ragas: Nattai, Sahana, Gaula, Begada, Saveri, Mukhari, Atana, Dharbar, Dharmavati, Karaharapriya, Latangi, Chakkravakam, Reetigaula, Saranga and Nattakurinji.

It's essential for candidates to answer their Raga Lakshana questions with the use of Swarastaana-graphs of arohanam and avarohanam for the above ragas.

2. Raga Aalapana - types and descriptions in detail. (e.g. Jeeva Swaram, Nyasa Swaram, Amsa Swaram, etc.)
3. Varieties in Tanam.
4. Methods in Niraval.
5. Methods of developing Kalpana swaras.
6. Gamakas - types and applications.
7. Musical instruments: All vadyams studied from Grade 3 to Diploma Year 4 - Structure and the art of handling of these Vadyams. Know names of past & present vidwaans.
8. Vaageyakaras or Composers: Papanasam Sivan & Swati Thirunal Maharajah - their life-history and their contributions to Carnatic music.
9. Brief knowledge of Pannisai.
10. Mudras of 10 composers (from composers in all previous grades)
11. Musical Terms of previous grades (1 to 7) should be revised (ie. Arumpada Vilakkam)
12. Practising to write kalpana swara for a given sahityam (in a common raga).
13. There will be a half an hour Audio-Visual examination, to be held after or before the Theory exam. This exam will test research, listening, visual and reading knowledge on Carnatic Music based on past and present Vidwans, Composers (Vageyakaras) and Instrumentalists. It will also test knowledge of ragas (common ragas and ragas in the grade's syllabus), talas and mudhras on varnams, krithis, kirthanas, Ashtapathis and Javalis. Listening knowledge of musical forms like geetams, Thillanas, Padams, Pada Varnams, Shyama Sastri's Swarajatis and musical instruments could also be tested. Please contact Administrator should you have any further questions.

NOTES: *Please also read the Notes on Syllabus at the beginning*

1. Student should be able to tune their Sruthi box, Violin, Veena.
2. All students sitting for the practical exams should submit a list of all musical pieces learnt or covered for the grade and for the previous grades.
3. Previous Grades' syllabuses should be covered when sitting for this grade.
5. Sight singing should be done in vocal (for instrumental candidates as well).

ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS (LONDON)
PUBLIC EXAMINATION
in
CARNATIC MUSIC
Syllabus for Vocal & Instrumental

Final year leading to Music Teacher's Diploma in Carnatic Music (Grade 9) Students who successfully complete this examination will be bestowed with a title "Isai Mani" (Minimum age to sit for exam 16 years - After completion of G.C.S.E or equivalent exam)

NOTE: Students should sit for main course and a subsidiary subject. Vocal students should take an instrument as subsidiary subject and vice versa. Bharatha Natyam or Mridhangam also can be taken as subsidiary subject.

Theory:

Candidates will sit for 2 papers each of 3 hours duration. Topics of the questions in the two theory papers will be made available to the candidates prior to the exam - on request made to the Administrator.

1. Panchadasa Gamakas
2. Ragas
3. Kacheri dharmas
4. Raga classification
5. 22 Sruthis
6. Musical forms
7. Manodharma Sangeetham
8. History of Indian Music
9. Contemporary Music
10. Comparison between Eastern & Western Music
11. Early experiments in Music
12. Origins of scales and Ragas
13. Murchanakara Melakarthis
14. The evolution of finger techniques in Indian instruments
15. Mudras in Music
16. Musical Therapy
17. The influence of Music on Health
18. Brindhagaanam
19. Iconography
20. Raga & Emotion
21. Music & Mathematics
22. Appreciation - A composition on pieces in any one of the following 3 languages: Tamil. Telugu & Sanskrit. (candidate may appreciate all the languages but only one will be examined)
23. Music & Temples
24. Graha bheda
25. 2 Hindustani composers (contemporary)
26. Pallavi
27. Traditions in Music

(continued on next page)

Music Teacher's Diploma (contd.)

28. **Short notes on Audio-Visual Equipments for the propagation of Carnatic Music: Gramophone, CD Player & Recorder, Hi-Fi System, Radio, Video Recorder, Tape Recorder, Television, Computer, etc.**

Vaageyakaras or Composers - their life-history and their contributions to Carnatic music:

Write short notes on all composers covered in previous grades.

Ganam Krishnaiyer,
Jayadevar
Kshetragna
Maha Vaidhyanatha Iyer

Contemporary Composers:

Mayuram Visvantha Sastri
Oothukkaadu Venkata Subbaiyer
Muthiah Bhagavathar
Mysore Vasudevachariyar
Pattnam Subramaniya Iyer
Ramaswamy Sivan
Tanjore Quartet
Tan- Sen

Practical: Part One

An exam concert (Katcheri format) of the following musical pieces for not more than 90 minutes. The candidate should time each item to make up the total 90 mins including the gaps (expected to be not more than 2 minutes) between each item.

Musical pieces for the exam concert programme:

- a. **At least one Tamil composition should be included in the exam**
 - b. **One (1) of each of the following pieces should be chosen for the programme.**
1. **Varnam – Adi, Ata, Jampai or any other talam (2 speeds)**
 2. **Madhyama kala kriti or kirtana with five or more sangatis with raga Aalapana, Niraval and Kalpana swaras in 2 speeds**
 3. **Chauka kala kriti or kirtana with Raga Aalapana not less than five sangatis.**
 4. **Sri Thiagaraja's Gana Pancharatna kriti or Shyama Sastri's Swarajati or Dikshitar's Navagraha / Navavarna kriti.**
 5. **Ragam-Tanam-Pallavi: Rendering a Pallavi in the traditional style. Raga Aalapana, Tanam and Pallavi (in Tri kala with Tisram), Niraval & Kalpana swaras .**
 6. **Folk Song (eg. chinthu), Padham, Thevaram, Semi-classical song, Ashtapathi or Javali**
 7. **Thillana**
 8. **Mangalam (only for the last candidate for the exam day but all candidates should be prepared)**

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Music Teacher's Diploma (contd.)

NOTES

1. All students sitting for this exam should submit a list of all musical pieces at least a month before the exam.
2. Candidate should prepare an invitation and programme sheet for the exam concert which should be made available to all the examiners and to all invited and present at the exam.
3. Academy will be responsible only for the hire of hall and providing the examiners. The candidate is responsible for providing the accompaniments (Pakka Vadhyams), the sound, the lighting for the hall, video recordings and any other related costs for the exam concert. The Academy will not meet any of these costs. The exam concert will be held under examination conditions; not as a public concert. Candidate could invite minimum number of non-participating spectators with prior agreement with the Academy. Absolute silence is expected from all outsiders (if present) while the examination is in progress.

Practical: Part Two

1. Raga Alapana: at least three (3) Mela Ragas (tri stayi ragas only) and three (3) Janya Ragas should be practised. Candidates should submit the practised raga list to the examiners at the exam and be able to sing Raga Alapana to one (1) Mela raga and two (2) Janya ragas chosen from the list by the examiners at the practical exam. Ragas found in the syllabuses from Grade 2 to Diploma should be revised and could be used in the practical exam.
2. Vocal sight singing of ragas found in the syllabuses from Grade 2 to Diploma. Swara korvai (phrases) of ragas will be given by the examiners and candidates should be able to sing vocally at least one of the given raga swara korvais.
3. Student should be able to tune either a given Tambura or a Violin or a Veena. The instrument to be tuned or played will be the examiner's choice. The instrument to be tuned should not be either the main instrument or subsidiary subject of the student.
4. Prepare and submit a handwritten journal (scrap book) at the exam. Marks will be allocated for the journal submitted. Candidates should continue preparing the journal (scrapbook) already prepared for Diploma Year 4 (Grade 7) and Diploma (Grade 8) submit again with additional notes for Teacher's Diploma.

Students should endeavour to write in their own handwriting – wherever possible – their observations, comments on articles, reviews of concerts and pictures.

Examiner will sign and date the journal (scrapbook) at the end – each time it is submitted.

5. Conduct a model lesson: Examinee will be requested to conduct a practical lesson at the exam, on a Geetam, Kirthana or Thevaram to a student or students. These students to be provided by the examinee. If the Examinee cannot provide the students he or she should inform the Academy in advance and the Academy will provide the students.
6. Subsidiary Subject for Teacher's Diploma: Vocal students should offer an instrument – Veena, Violin, Flute, Mridhangam (excluding Harmonium and Keyboard) or Bharatha Natyam as subsidiary subject. The Instrument students should offer Vocal or Bharatha Natyam as subsidiary subject. The student should have either sat and passed Grade 3 of the subsidiary subject or sit for a practical examination of Grade 3 of the subsidiary at the Teacher's Diploma Part 2 examination.

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Music Teacher's Diploma (contd.)

Books to read and understand:

South Indian Music (Book 4) - Chapters 1 to 8, 15, 16.

South Indian Music (Book 5) - Chapters 1 to 6 & 10 to 15.

South Indian Music (Book 6) - Chapters 5 to 12.

History of Indian Music by Prof. P Sambamurthy - Chapters 3, 5, 11, 12, 15, 16,18.

Recommended Reading:

South Indian Music (Books 1 to 6) by Prof. P Sambamurthy

Dictionary of South Indian Music (5 Volumes) by Prof. P Sambamurthy

A practical Course in Carnatic Music - Books 1-3 by Prof. P Sambamurthy

Aids to the Teaching of Music by Prof. P Sambamurthy

Pictures of famous Composers, Musicians by Prof. P Sambamurthy

Great Musicians by Prof. P Sambamurthy

Great Composers by Prof. P Sambamurthy

Other publications by Prof. P Sambamurthy (Books in Tamil):

Keerthana Sagaram

Karnataka Sangeetham (Books 1-3)

Sri A S Panchapakesaiyer's Books:

Ganamrutha Bodhini

Karnataka Sangeetha Saastiram

Sangeetha Santhirikai by Manikka Mudaliyar, Selam.

Ragas in Carnatic Music by Dr. S Bhagyalekshmy

Sri Thyagaraja Swamy Charitham by P K Moorthy

Bharathiya Isai Iyal Payirchchi Nool by Dr S V Leela

Muthuswamy Dikshitarin Varalaaru

Isai Iyal by Tanjore Ponniah Pillai (Annamalai University Publication)

Keerthana Maalai (2 Volumes) by Papanasam Sivan

Studies in Indian Music by T V Subba Rao

Sri Subramaniya Baharathiyar songs

Kalaik Kalanjyam

Thennaka Isai Iyal by Dr S S Sellaturai (or the English version of the book)

Sangeetha Saasthiram by K Velayuthapillai

Vaageyakararkalin Sarithiram by Sundharam Iyer

Karnamirtha Saagaram by Abraham Pandithar

Thamizhisai Theebam by Satchithananthan Sri Kantha

Sangeetha Saaram by R V Krishnan (3 Volumes)